

U. S. Department of Justice

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FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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24, 2007

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SHAW-WALKER 1B-52263

SAC, New York

1 - Mr. Glascock
1 - Mr. Kitchenn
1 - Mr. Krupinsky
1 - Mr. Haack

January 9, 1962

Director, FBI (100-353832)

THE WEAVERS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

(0-1)-NY-7/13/62
next w/b sub
3/24/62
98

✓ 3

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" dated 1-4-62 contains an article on page A-8 entitled "Loyalty Oath Lack Bars Video Team." The article states that the Weavers, a folk-singing quartet, was barred by the National Broadcasting Company from appearing on the Jack Paar program 1-2-62 because its members refused to sign statements that they were not Communist Party (CP) members. The article also said that Fred Hellerman, the spokesman for the quartet, said he and another member of the quartet, Lee Hays, had invoked the Fifth Amendment at congressional inquiries.

A review of Bureau files revealed that the following individuals are members of the Weavers quartet: Fred Hellerman, Bureau file 100-384363, New York file 100-93794; Lee Elhardt Hays, Bureau file 100-345986, New York file 100-86568; Ruth Alice Weg, Bureau file 100-384364, New York file 100-107079; and Eric Darling.

Concerning Eric Darling, refer to Bureau letter to New York 2-5-54 concerning "Joseph Paul Katzberg, Security Matter - C," New York file 100-108796, the enclosure to which contains information furnished by Katzberg about one Eric Darling, a banjo player who was believed by Katzberg to be a member of the American Youth for Democracy. Also refer to page 16 of New York report 5-19-61 concerning "Communist Infiltration of Radio-Television Industries, Internal Security - C."

In view of the recent publicity about the Weavers and since their activities may bring them within the criteria for inclusion in the Reserve Index, you are requested to reopen the cases on Hellerman, Hays, and Weg and to open a case on Darling. Limit investigations to search of indices and appropriate publications and contacts with confidential informants and established sources. Upon completion of your investigations, submit reports under individual case caption, together with your recommendations as to whether the above-named individuals should be included in the Reserve Index, Section A.

1-Bufile 100-384363 (Hellerman)
1-Bufile 100-345986 (Hays)
1-Bufile 100-384364 (Weg)
①-Bufile (Eric Darling)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW PAGE 2.

IDH:mth (15)

51 JAN 18 1962

MCT. 12

REC-12

EX-108

100-437047-1
NOT RECORDED
201 JAN 11 1962

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-383812-10

Letter to New York
Re: The Weavers
100-383812

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Hellerman, Hays and Weg are all former CP members. File review showed Hays took Fifth Amendment in 1955 before HCUA. It is noted news release states Hellerman also took Fifth Amendment before congressional committee. Weg was active in mid-1950's in "Women for Legislative Action."

Weavers 'Folksong' Muted By ABC-TV

Chicago, Jan. 14. — Maybe it's just coincidental, but just two days after NBC-TV nixed the appearance of the Weavers on the "Jack Paar Show" (because the folksinging foursome wouldn't sign a loyalty oath), ABC-TV advised sponsor Sara Lee that it didn't have a berth for "Folksong Festival" after all.

Show was to have been an hour-long special on which the Weavers were featured along with other folksong acts.

Sara Lee had optioned the show from indie producer Jim McGinn for a network outing after the baking company had trial-ballooned it locally in Chi. It came off with good reviews here, and the sponsor got a tentative May 1 primetime period from ABC.

Shortly after the loyalty oath business at NBC, Sara Lee was informed that the May 1 date wasn't going to be available at ABC for the special. No other dates were offered, and the sponsor let the option drop.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

0-1(2+4)NY
2-9-62
jkg/cpr

Eric Darling

100-340922-A
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

100-437047-A
NOT RECORDED
48 JAN 24 1962

Orig in 100-340922
2/1
58 JAN 24 1962

DAILY VARIETY
Hollywood 28, California
January 15, 1962
Page 1

file 100-437047

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 3/23/62	Investigative Period 1/18-3/19/62
TITLE OF CASE 0 ERIK DARLING aka Eric Darling		Report made by JOHN J. ELLIOTT	Typed By: cah
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM-C	

REFERENCE

Bulet to NY, 1/9/62, captioned, "THE WEAVERS;
IS-C".

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE

The pretext interview by a SA of the FBI conducted on 3/16/62, as mentioned under the "Residence" and "Employment" sub-captions in this report was as follows: SA JOHN J. ELLIOTT telephonically contacted the subject at his home telephone number, TR 7-3729. SA ELLIOTT revealed himself as an individual who was interested in determining the identity of the booking agent for "The Weavers" so that the possibility of engaging "The Weavers" at a future date could be discussed.

Approved <i>[Signature]</i> Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-437047) (RM) 3 - New York (100-141641)	100-4370 47-2	REC-37
AGENCY ACSI REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. 4-18-62 HOW FORW. By Liaison BY PDP	11 MAR 26 1962	EX-116
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SUBV. CONTROL

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955 O-344750

NY 100-141641

On 6/18/59, a telephone call was made by SA KARL ROBERT BUCKMAN to the residence of LEE HAYS, a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, who at that time resided at 29 Middagh Street, Brooklyn, NY, and he subscribed to telephone number UL 8-0146. The New York Telephone Company operator advised that telephone number UL 8-0146 had been temporarily changed to telephone number AC 2-5173.

On 6/18/59, a telephone call was made to NYC telephone number AC 2-5173 by SA KARL ROBERT BUCKMAN under the pretext of a student attempting to engage LEE HAYS to sing at a private party. The individual answering the telephone call identified herself as Mrs. HAROLD LEVENTHAL, wife of the manager of a singing group known as "The Weavers".

Mrs. LEVENTHAL advised that "The Weavers" at the time were on a European tour. Mrs. LEVENTHAL further advised that "The Weavers" were in Tel Aviv, Israel, and they would probably remain in Israel for approximately two months. According to Mrs. LEVENTHAL, "The Weavers" had already been in England and were expected to go to Yugoslavia and Greece and they were expected to return to the US in October, 1959, but they could possibly return earlier. Mrs. LEVENTHAL stated that "The Weavers" may also make the Seventh World Youth Festival.

In the absence of specific information to the effect that ERIK DARLING made the above trip with "The Weavers", folk-singing quartet, though he was a member of "The Weavers" at the time, in addition to the fact that there is no information that "The Weavers" actually went to the Seventh World Youth Festival, the above information is not being included in the details of this report.

- B -
COVER PAGE

NY 100-141641

This case has been reviewed in the light of Reserve Index, Section A, criteria and the NYO is of the opinion that the subject's activities do not come within the current standards for inclusion on the Reserve Index, Section A.

This report is classified "Confidential" because unauthorized disclosure of the information furnished by NY T-1, NY T-2 and NY T-4 might reveal confidential informants of continuing value and impair their future effectiveness and such impairment could have an adverse effect upon the national defense interests of the US.

INFORMANTS

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>File # Where Located</u>
NY T-1 [redacted]	Instant Report information furnished to SA MICHAEL M. O'ROURKE 100-141641-6 100-80374-948
NY T-2 [redacted]	[redacted]
NY T-3 [redacted]	100-141641-5
NY T-4 FRED HELLERMAN's testimony at Executive Session of House Committee on Un-American Activities, NYC, 2/7/57	Used to characterize FRED HELLERMAN

Careful consideration has been given to the sources concealed and T symbols were utilized in the report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

-C-

NY 100-141641

The source utilized in the characterization of the Metropolitan Music School is BELLA V. DODD (by request).

The other confidential informants, who reported during January, February and March, 1962, that the subject is unknown to them are as follows:

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- D -
COVER PAGE

NY 100-141641

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

- E* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of:

JOHN J. ELLIOTT

Office: New York, New York

Date:

3/23/62

Field Office File No.:

100-141641

Bureau File No.:

100-437047

Title:

ERIK DARLING

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject resides Apartment 2-D, 60 West 68th Street, NYC, and is presently a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet. JOSEPH PAUL KATZBERG in signed statement advised to OSI he believed one ERIC DARLING was a member of the American Youth for Democracy. On 10/9/53, ERIK DARLING was among individuals who entertained at an "Evening of Folk Songs" organized by Labor Youth League and held at the Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Inc., 405 West 41st Street, NYC. As of 10/13/55, subject was a member of the "Song Swappers" which group was organized by and under the direction of PETER SEEGER. Information concerning other members of "The Weavers", folk-singing quartet, set forth. No credit or criminal record located for subject in NYC and records of the Bureau of Special Services of the NYCPD contain no information of pertinence regarding subject. Subject unknown to other confidential informants, NYC.

- C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-141641

DETAILS

I. BACKGROUND DATA

A. Residence

The 1961-1962 Telephone Directory of the City of New York for the Borough of Manhattan as checked by SA JOHN J. ELLIOTT on January 24, 1962, reflects a listing for ERIK DARLING, 60 West 68th Street, Manhattan, New York City, telephone number TR 7-3729.

The Address Telephone Directory of the City of New York for the Borough of Manhattan dated February 13, 1962, as checked by SA JOHN J. ELLIOTT on February 26, 1962, reflects a listing for ERIK DARLING, 60 West 68th Street, Manhattan, New York City, telephone number TR 7-3729.

On March 5, 1962, SA JOHN J. ELLIOTT checked the building directory located in the lobby of the apartment building at 60 West 68th Street, Manhattan, New York City. This directory reflected that "DARLING", was residing in Apartment 2-D at this address.

By means of a pretext interview by a Special Agent (SA) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on March 16, 1962, it was ascertained that the subject resides in Apartment 2-D at 60 West 68th Street, Manhattan, New York City.

B. Employment

As of June 18, 1959, the subject was a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet.

NY T-1
June 18, 1959

The Minneapolis, Minnesota, "Sunday Tribune" issue of January 17, 1960, contained an article which reflected that the subject was at that time, a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet.

NY 100-141641

As of April 12, 1961, the subject was a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet.

NY T-1
April 12, 1961

As of March 7, 1962, the subject was a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet.

NY T-1
March 7, 1962

By means of a pretext interview by a SA of the FBI on March 16, 1962, it was ascertained that the subject is presently employed as a member of "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of Membership in or Sympathy with Communist Party (CP) Front Organizations

On December 15, 1953, JOSEPH PAUL KATZBERG, Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force, Serial Number AF12295870, Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts, in connection with an investigation which was being conducted concerning him by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), United States Air Force, furnished a sworn signed statement to Special Agent JAMES S. WINSTON, OSI, in which he, KATZBERG, admitted that he was a member of the American Youth for Democracy (AYD) in Brooklyn, New York, during 1946 and 1947. In this statement KATZBERG also admitted that during Thanksgiving of 1952, he attended a meeting of folk music players, Greenwich Village, New York City, and there met one ERIC DARLING, a banjo player, whom KATZBERG believed was a member of the AYD.

The AYD has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NY 100-141641

The "Daily Worker" issue of October 7, 1953, on page 8, column 4, contained an advertisement which reflects that on October 9, 1953, ERIK DARLING would be among eight individuals entertaining at an "Evening of Folk Songs" scheduled to be held at Yugoslav Hall, 405 West 41st Street, New York City, at 8:30 p.m.

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast Communist newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

The Labor Youth League (LYL) organized an "Evening of Folk Songs" which was held October 9, 1953 at the Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Incorporated, 405 West 41st Street, New York City. Among those who entertained at this affair was ERIK DARLING.

NY T-2
October 10, 1953

The LYL has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The Yugoslav-American Cooperative Home, Incorporated, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

B. Associates

As of October 13, 1955, the subject was a member of a singing group called the "Song Swappers", which group was organized by and under the direction of PETER SEEGER.

NY T-3
October 13, 1955

NY 100-141641

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, self-admitted former CP functionary and former managing editor of the "Daily Worker", advised on June 30, 1950, that he had learned that PETER SEEGER was a member of the CP in 1949.

The "Daily Worker" has been previously mentioned in this report.

On December 13, 1954, JOHN LAUTNER, a CP member for over 20 years who at the time of his expulsion from the CP in January, 1950, was Chairman of the New York State CP Review Commission, advised that he knew PETER SEEGER as a CP member from 1947 to 1949. During April, 1951, LAUTNER advised that PETER SEEGER, a singer, was always available for CP affairs as an entertainer.

As of June 18, 1959, "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, was comprised of ERIK DARLING, Miss RONNIE GILBERT, LEE HAYS, and FRED HELLERMAN.

NY T-1
June 18, 1959

The Minneapolis, Minnesota, "Sunday Tribune" issue of January 17, 1960, contained an article which reflected that "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, was comprised of ERIK DARLING, Miss RONNIE GILBERT, LEE HAYS, and FRED HELLERMAN.

As of April 12, 1961, "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, was comprised of ERIK DARLING, Miss RONNIE GILBERT, LEE HAYS, and FRED HELLERMAN.

NY T-1
April 12, 1961

NY 100-141641

As of March 7, 1962, "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, was comprised of ERIK DARLING, Miss RONNIE GILBERT, LEE HAYS, and FRED HELLERMAN.

NY T-1
March 7, 1962

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The "New York World Telegram and Sun" issue of August 25, 1951, reported that RONNIE GILBERT had appeared in a review which had been staged for the Cultural Division of the CP, following the CP's May Day Parade in 1949.

A characterization of the May Day Parade is contained in the Appendix to this report.

JOHN LAUTNER, a CP member for over 20 years who at the time of his expulsion from the CP in 1950 was Chairman of the New York State CP Review Commission, advised in April, 1951, that LEE HAYS was a CP member, exact dates not specified.

On August 16, 1955, LEE HAYS testified in a public session before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) in New York City and when asked if he had been a CP member in the past or was then a CP member, he declined to answer, pleading the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

The "Daily Worker" issue of May 5, 1949, carried an article which reflected that FRED HELLERMAN participated in a program sponsored by the Music Section of the Cultural Division of the CP, held following the annual May Day celebration and parade in New York City in 1949.

NY 100-141641

The "Daily Worker" has been previously mentioned in this report.

FRED HELLERMAN, while appearing before another Government body on February 7, 1957, admitted that he taught at the Metropolitan Music School in the Fall of 1955 and early 1956. HELLERMAN invoked the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States when asked if he had been a CP member in the past or was then a CP member.

NY T-4
April 8, 1957

A characterization of the Metropolitan Music School is contained in the Appendix to this report.

C. Miscellaneous Activities

"The Worker" issue of December 13, 1953, on page 16, Column 1, advertised that folk music by the "Villagers", including ERIK DARLING, would be held December 18, 1953 at Yugoslav Hall, 405 West 41st Street, New York City.

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist newspaper.

The "National Guardian" issue of December 14, 1953, on page 4, contained an advertisement concerning "The Villagers" new voices in Folk Music", a program to be presented at Yugoslav Hall, 405 West 41st Street, New York City, on December 18, 1953. Among the performers listed was ERIK DARLING.

A characterization of the "National Guardian" is contained in the Appendix to this report.

NY 100-141641

The "Washington Post and Times Herald" issue of January 4, 1962, contained an article on page A-8, entitled, "Loyalty Oath Lack Bars Video Team". This article states that "The Weavers", a folk-singing quartet, was barred by the National Broadcasting Company from appearing on the JACK PAAR program of January 2, 1962, because its members refused to sign statements that they were not CP members. This article also stated that FRED HELLERMAN, the spokesman for the quartet, said he and another member of the quartet, LEE HAYS, had invoked the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States at Congressional inquiries.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

On January 24, 1962, Miss PAULINE DE FIORE, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater New York, advised IC JOHN F. GOOD that a search of her files failed to reflect any record pertaining to the subject.

On February 6, 1962, SA DAVID G. JENKINS caused the records of the Bureau of Criminal Identification of the New York City Police Department (NYCPD) to be checked concerning the subject, however, no record could be located pertaining to him.

On February 9, 1962, SA DAVID G. JENKINS caused the records of the Bureau of Special Services of the NYCPD to be checked concerning the subject, however, these records failed to reflect any information of pertinence concerning him.

Other confidential informants, who are familiar with some phases of CP activity in the New York City area, reported during January, February, and March, 1962, that the subject is not known to them.

NY 100-141641

APPENDIX

MAY DAY PARADE

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "May Day Parade":

"May Day Parade

"1. 'The May Day Parade in New York City is an annual mobilization of Communist strength.'

(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 179.)"

METROPOLITAN MUSIC SCHOOL, INC.

The Metropolitan Music School, Inc. (MMS), catalogue for 1958-1959, reflects the school is located at 18 West 74th Street, New York 23, New York. The catalogue states the school was founded in 1935, and is a non-profit cooperative, progressive both in teaching methods and social outlook.

On November 16, 1954, a confidential source advised that he believes the MMS was organized for the purpose of developing the cultural aspects of the Communist movement, particularly in the field of music. The source advised on November 2, 1954, he was of the impression that the MMS was always in the hands of the Communist Party.

The report of the hearings before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 85th Congress, on the investigation of Communism in the Metropolitan Music School, Inc. and related fields sets forth in the synopsis the following:

"Hearings conducted by the Committee on Un-American Activities in New York City from April 9-12, 1957, established that the Metropolitan Music School, Inc. is controlled by identified Communists."

In support of its conclusion the report reflects that the Committee names seven present and former officials as having been identified as Communist Party members or as having invoked the Fifth Amendment when interrogated.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-141641

APPENDIX

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

- "1. 'Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12)"

-11*-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

March 23, 1962

Bureau 100-437047
New York 100-141641

Title Erik Darling

Character Security Matter - C

Reference report of Special Agent
John J. Elliott, dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

NY T-4 is in a position to furnish reliable
information.